Setting up of Integrated Water Resource Management

1380. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking of setting up of an Integrated Water Resource Management;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a meeting was held in the first week of December, 2002 in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) There is no proposal under consideration of the Govemment for setting up of an Integrated Water Resources Management. However, the National Water Policy-2002, emphasizes on Integrated Water Resources Development and Management. Integrated water resources development and management involves integrating the needs of ail the sectors, and also requires judicious combination of major, medium, minor and micro schemes including watershed development, conjunctive use of surface and groundwater keeping in view the environmental and social factors.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Water Resources is not aware of the meeting held in the first week of December, 2002 relating to the setting up of an Integrated Water Resource Management.

Formation of Indo-Bhutan River Commission

1381. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that every year flood ravages Northern districts of West Bengal;

(b) whether Government have agreed to form an Indo-Bhutan Joint River Commission as most of the rivers originate from Bhutan; and

(c) if so, the time-frame thereof?